



RESEARCH ABSTRACTS FROM THE VOLUNTEER RESEARCHER PROGRAM – IPRI/FUNAG

Line of Research

Brazil and the World – Brazilian Foreign Policy

Title

Brazil between winds and storms: challenges of Brazilian foreign action in times of volatile international stability

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Abstract

The project investigates the challenges facing Brazilian foreign policy in the phase of volatile stabilities inaugurated by the COVID-19 health crisis, intensified by geopolitical crises in Eurasia and the Middle East, and further exacerbated by the return of President Donald J. Trump to power in the United States. Its primary focus lies on the third presidency of Lula da Silva and on Brazil's interaction with the West, the Global South, and the Americas, particularly South America, within this context of profound and widespread malaise. The first phase of the research resulted in an in-depth examination of the condition of the West and of Western values, seeking to analyze the degree of fragilization of these entities and their implications for the formulation of foreign policy. The next stage of the research will extend this global and general dimension of the problem to the Brazilian case. That is, it will shift the analytical focus to the impacts of the weakening of the idea of the West and of Western values on Brazil and on its



foreign policy.

Methodology

The methodology employed in the research was initially structured around a systematic review of the literature, with the aim of establishing the theoretical and analytical framework necessary to understand the contemporary challenges of Brazilian foreign policy. Classical and contemporary works in International Relations were mobilized, with particular attention to reflections on the West, the post-1945 international system, the Global South, and Latin America, thereby allowing Brazilian foreign policy under the third presidency of Lula da Silva to be situated within a broader historical and conceptual perspective. In a second stage, primary sources were collected, analyzed, and cross-compared, including official speeches, foreign policy documentanalytical articles and recent academic productions to identify convergences, tensions, and ruptures in Brazil's diplomatic discourse and practice. Based on this analytical effort, the results were critically organized and presented, culminating in the production of articles and reflections that systematize the research findings and contribute to the debate on the limits, dilemmas, and possibilities of Brazil's international insertion in the current context of volatility and transformation of the international system.

Research stage

The research is ongoing.

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